

SYNONYMICAL NOTES ;
WITH DESCRIPTION OF A NEW GENUS
OF *THYSANOPTERA*

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When several authors write on the same group, independently and at the same time, it is only to be expected that a certain amount of over-lapping will occur. This is the case with the Order Thysanoptera, which, until comparatively recent years, has been so little studied, and these notes relate chiefly to some recently published papers by Dr. PIETRO BUFFA, Rome, and the present writer.

At the end is a list of references, arranged alphabetically and numbered consecutively, the numbers used hereafter referring to this list.

Sub-order **TUBULIFERA**

Family **PHLÆOTHIRIPIDÆ**

Genus **ECACANTHOTHRIPS** nov.

Type *E. (Acanthothrips) sanguineus* BAGNALL (1), p. 262, pl. XV, fig. 15.

Since I described *Acanthothrips sanguineus*, which I placed provisionally in the genus *Acanthothrips* UZEL, I have had the opportunity of studying the single European species *A. nodicornis* (REUTER), and the American species *A. magnafemoralis* HINDS, *A. Doaneii* MOULTON and *A. albivittatus* HOOD, and it is now quite clear to me that *A. sanguineus* does not naturally fall into this genus, but possesses characters of distinct generic value. For the reception of the single species I would propose the new genus *Ecacanthothrips*.

Head longer than broad, cheeks with spine-bearing warts. Antennæ twice as long as head, intermediate joints elongate and possessing sense-cones more than usually long; third antennal joint broadly obconical.

Surface of prothorax granulate. Fore-femur enlarged and somewhat flattened, without teeth at apex within, but each furnished with a long, sharp, and slightly curved tooth from the base within. Fore-tarsus armed with a stout tooth. Wings present.

Male apparently without scale at base of tube.

This genus may at once be recognized by the long and slightly curved tooth near the base of each fore-femur within, and by the broad, obconical form of the third antennal joint.

Genus COMPSOTHRIPS REUTER (10) 1901.

Apl. 1903, *Macrothrips* BUFFA (4), p. 4, figs. 1-5.

Sept. 1903, *Leurothrips* BAGNALL (2), p. 196-214; pl. VI, figs. 11-12.

In a paper published April 15th 1908, Dr PIETRO BUFFA founded the genus *Macrothrips* for the reception of *Phleothrips albosignatus* REUTER, whilst in September of the same year I founded the genus *Leurothrips* for two new species one of which, in an addendum to the same paper, is referred to REUTER'S *P. albosignatus* (9). We have both unfortunately overlooked a paper by Prof. REUTER published in the year 1901, in which he founds the genus *Compsothrips* for the reception of the same species. *Macrothrips* BUFFA, and *Leurothrips* BAGNALL must therefore be regarded as synonyms of *Compsothrips* REUTER, in which genus we recognize two species, *C. albosignatus* (REUTER) and *C. linearis* (BAGNALL).

Further, a genus to which I gave the name *Macrothrips* (1), was founded by me in a paper published on April 1st 1908, for the reception of two peculiar Malayan species. Dr. BUFFA (*in litt.* 17 XI. 1908) asks me to propose a new name for this genus, but, apart from the fact that *Macrothrips* BUFFA is a synonym of *Compsothrips* REUTER, BUFFA'S paper was not published until April 15th 1908, and I am thus able to establish priority, by a very slender margin, it is true; and *Macrothrips* BAGNALL must stand.

MEGATHRIPS, TARG.-TOZZ., and allied Genera.

Dr. BUFFA (3) has shown that *Megathrips Piccioli* TARGIONI-TOZZETTI (11) (1878), agrees perfectly with the *Phleothrips lativentris* of HEEGER (7) 1852), and that therefore the genus *Megathrips* TARG.-TOZZ., must take precedence of the genus *Megalothrips* founded by UZEL (12) for the reception of *P. lativentris* HEEGER, and a new species, *Bonannii* UZEL. *Megalothrips Bonannii* was described by Prof. UZEL from a single male, but this year, 1908, BUFFA (5) has discovered and figured the female, and in his opinion this species is not co-generic with *Megathrips lativentris* (HEEGER). In fact he has, unfortunately, placed *M. Bonannii* in the genus *Idolothrips* HALIDAY on account of the form of the head, the antennæ, and of the tube. As I understand it, the genus *Idolothrips* (HAL.), is composed of species having the head long and cylindrical; the antennæ long and very slender; the prothorax subquadrate and tuberculate; the fore-tarsus armed more or less strongly in both sexes; the abdomen long and slender, carinate, the segments, as a rule, being much longer than broad, and always simple in both sexes.

It will thus be seen that *Megalothrips bonannii* UZEL has very little in common with the genus *Idolothrips*, that, in fact, it belongs to a different group altogether, and I would propose that the genus *Megalothrips* UZEL should not be sunk as a synonym of *Megathrips* TARG.-TOZZ., but be retained for the reception of this species.

In the same paper Dr. BUFFA (5) describes the two very interesting genera, *Bacillothrips* and *Siphonothrips*, both of which are very closely allied to *Megathrips* and *Megalothrips*. Prof. REUTER (10) describes *Megalothrips longiceps*, from Corfu; and as I have already stated this paper has escaped Dr BUFFA's attention as well as by own.

Bacillothrips is especially interesting on account of the form of the first abdominal tergite, which is composed of three semicircular, chitinous plates, the central one being the largest. BUFFA only describes apterous forms of the single species, *B. linearis* BUFFA; the ocelli are present, however, and it is quite likely that winged forms will ultimately be found.

These four genera, *Megathrips* TARG.-TOZZ., *Megalothrips* (UZEL.) as exemplified by *M. Bonannii* UZEL, *Bacillothrips* BUFFA, and *Siphonothrips* BUFFA, in fact form a natural group at once distinguished by the unarmed fore-tarsus in both sexes; the lateral tubiform processes of the sixth abdominal segment in the ♂, and the long tube of the ♀. The species range in size from three to four millimetres, the antennæ have the intermediate segments elongate, the head is two to three times longer than broad, or than the length of the prothorax, whilst the tube of the ♀ is decidedly, sometimes considerably, longer than that of the ♂. The genera may be thus provisionally tabulated:—

I. *Tubiform processes of 6th abdominal segment reaching beyond apex of 7th segment; outwardly curved:*

i. Prothorax strongly transverse:

♂. 5th abdominal segment broadened at apical third and sharply constricted to base of 6th; 8th segment simple;

♀. Tube six times the length of 9th abdominal segment; antennæ longer than head and prothorax together.

Megalothrips (UZEL).

ii. Prothorax not strongly transverse:

♂. 5th abdominal segment not broadened; 8th segment with a pair of lateral projections;

♀. Tube four times the length of 9th abdominal segment; antennæ as long as the head and prothorax together.

Megathrips (TARG.-TOZZ.).

II. *Tubiform processes of 6th abdominal segment scarcely reaching to apex of 7th segment; inwardly curved:*

i. Form very narrow, linear; prothorax not strongly transverse; head three times the length of prothorax:

♂. Antennæ longer than head; tubiform processes of 6th abdominal segment almost parallel; segments 7 and 8 longer than broad,

and each armed with a pair of lateral projections at their apical third.

Bacillothrips (BUFFA).

- ii. Form very broad, massive; prothorax strongly transverse; head twice the length of prothorax :

♂. Antennæ as long as head; tubiform processes of 6th abdominal segment very strongly curved inwards; segments 7 and 8 strongly transverse, simple.

Siphonothrips (BUFFA).

Sub-order TEREBRANTIA

Family THRIPIDÆ

LIMOTHRIPS CEREALII HALIDAY (6)

Limothrips avenæ HINDS (8), p. 138, pl. I, figs. 10-12; pl. II, fig. 13.

For some time I have considered that the North American form *Limothrips avenæ* HINDS was the same as the European *Limothrips cerealium* HALIDAY. I have now had the opportunity of studying specimens from different parts of the Old and New World, and have thus confirmed my opinion as to the identity of *L. avenæ* (1902) with *L. cerealium* (1836).

L. avenæ must therefore be regarded as a synonym of HALIDAY'S *L. cerealium*, a species which may be expected to occur where-ever cereal crops are cultivated; it is also found in various grasses.

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